

**BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM**



**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

for the year

**1963**



1963  
BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

---

*Mayor :*

COUNCILLOR J. EDMONDS

*Deputy Mayor :*

ALDERMAN F. E. Y. FLEET

**Public Health Committee :**

*(Full Council)*

Chairman : Councillor T. Lambourne

Alderman H. E. Cornwall

Alderman S. G. Williams

„ A. E. Busby

Coun. C. G. Hardy

Coun. J. M. Cornwall

„ T. E. Holton

„ H. Adams

„ A. G. F. Marriott

„ R. Davis

„ F. F. De Angeli

„ Mrs. D. J. Elkerton

„ J. A. B. Gilchrist

„ A. Wilkins

**Public Health Staff**

*Medical Officer of Health :*

D. H. WALDRON, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.M.S. (Rtd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C., Winslow R.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C., Newport Pagnell R.D.C., and Wolverton U.D.C., and Divisional School M.O. for North Bucks and Buckingham and Winslow District and Area Medical Officer for North Bucks).

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health :*

R. M. LASLET, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Health Inspector :*

R. TAYLOR, M.S.I.A.

Telephone : Buckingham 2295

*Secretary :*

MISS J. HOWLETT.

# BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

---

TOWN HALL,

BUCKINGHAM,

June 25th, 1964.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Buckingham.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

The Birth Rate remains steady and is two points higher than the Rate for the County as a whole.

The Death Rate shows a further satisfactory drop and is now nearly five points lower than that for the rest of the Country. Of the total of 34 deaths Heart and Allied Diseases and Cancer accounted for 21.

The Infantile Mortality Rate shows a rise on the previous year. There were actually two deaths in this group.

I should like to record again my thanks to your Town Clerk, Mr. Archdeacon, your Borough Surveyor and Health Inspector, Mr. Rennie Taylor, and their staffs for their helpful co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

DANIEL H. WALDRON.

## A. Vital Statistics

					1962	1963
Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	5,367	5,367
Population	...	...	...	...	4,390	4,530
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	1,843	1,894
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£62,137	£200,398
Rate per £1	...	...	...	...	24/6	9/4
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£300	£776

BIRTHS :				M.	F.		
Legitimate	...	...	...	39	42	84	81
Illegitimate	...	...	...	3	2	1	5
Birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	20.5	20.1
„ „ „ „	„	„	„	(Bucks)	...	19.2	19.2
„ „ „ „	„	„	„	(England)	...	...	...
and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	18.0	18.2
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil

				M.	F.		
DEATHS	...	...	...	18	16	41	34
Death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	9.1	7.5
„ „ „ „	„	„	„	(Bucks)	...	9.6	9.9
„ „ „ „	„	„	„	(England & Wales)	...	11.9	12.2
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
„ „ „ „	„	„	„	(Bucks)	...	0.10	0.30
„ „ „ „	„	„	„	(England & Wales)	...	0.35	0.28

## INFANTILE MORTALITY :

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per							
1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	23.3
„ „ (Bucks)	...	...	...	...	...	17.9	17.7
„ „ (England & Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	21.4	20.9

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH :				1962			1963		
				M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...			1	0	1	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis	...	...		0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	...	...	...	5	4	9	5	3	8
Diabetes	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...			6	5	11	0	2	2
Heart Disease	...	...	...	7	2	9	5	3	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory									
Systems	...	...	...	1	0	1	1	2	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	4	0	4	0	1	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	2
Digestive Diseases	...	...		0	1	1	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	...	...		0	0	0	1	0	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accidents	...	...	...	1	0	1	1	0	1
All other Causes	...	...		1	1	2	4	4	8
				—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...		27	14	41	18	16	34
				—	—	—	—	—	—

## B. General Provision of Health Services

### 1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for pathological investigation were sent, as in previous years, to the laboratory at Oxford. The arrangement was satisfactory. Samples for chemical analysis have to be sent to the County Analyst.

### 2. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

These are administered direct from the County Health Department, Aylesbury. One Dual Purpose car was stationed in Buckingham, and supplemented when necessary with ambulances from Bletchley. All vehicles are radio controlled.

### 3. NURSING IN THE HOME.

The District Nurses as always carried out their excellent work.

#### 4. CLINICAL AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centre—A Centre at the Congregational Chapel Hall has held bi-monthly sessions with the Medical Officer in attendance once a month. Although the amenities of the Centre were far from ideal, good work has been carried out therein and attendance has been satisfactory. Total attendance of children throughout the year was 734. I feel that too much praise cannot be given to those ladies who give so much of their spare time in helping with this work. Diphtheria and other immunisations were also carried out at the Clininc.

(b) Orthopaedic Clinic—Sessions have been held twice monthly and have been staffed by nurses from the Wingfield Morris Hospital.

(c) Chest Clinic—This self-contained unit, complete with X-ray, continues to do very good work. It is held once a week at Buckingham Hospital, and is attended by the Chest Physician.

#### 5. HOSPITALS.

The following hospitals have received cases from this area :

1. BuckinghamHospital.
2. Aylesbury Isolation Hospital (Infectious cases).
3. Slade Hospital, Oxford.
4. Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
5. Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford.
6. Creaton Sanatorium.
7. Royal Bucks.
8. Tindal Hospital.

#### 6. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service, instituted under the National Health Service Act, is administered by the County Council. During the year 65 cases were assisted. There are now three Domestic Help Organisers covering the North Bucks Area.

### C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### 1. WATER.

The public water supply was maintained throughout the year adequately. The quality was at all times satisfactory. Some freezing of underground services occurred during the severe weather at the start of the year. Low voltage generators were used in a number of cases to restore supplies.

Average daily consumption was 44.34 gallons per head of the population.

The total amount of water consumed during the year in Buckingham and Gawcott was 73,359,600 gallons.

No serious breakdown of plant or machinery occurred.

Peak consumption was 234,000 gallons per day on the 11th June.

Nine bacteriological examinations were made on the raw water, all were satisfactory.

#### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC WATER

				Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C.)	..	..	..	48.0	33.6
Combined Chlorine (Cl)	..	..	..	2.2	1.5
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl)	..			3.6	2.5
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	..	..	..	0.04	0.03
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)		..	..	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	..	..	..	0.0010	0.0007
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27fC.	..	..		0.003	0.002
Lead or Copper	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3)	..			26.5	18.6
Permanent hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3)	..			8.0	5.6
Total hardness equivalent toCa Co3		..	..	34.5	24.2

Arrangements are being completed to supplement the Borough water supply with a cross connection of the Bucks the Borough main in Chandos Road.

The object is to ensure the maintenance of an adequate supply during severe drought conditions, having regard to the rapidly increasing water consumption generally.



## 2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Gawcott Works continues to serve the village but owing to increased flows the consulting engineers have been instructed to report on ways of improving the final effluent.

The expansion of the Buckingham Works was started in August and should be completed by the end of 1964.

The successful contractors were A. H. Busby, Ltd., a local firm, and the contract price was £63,715 12s. 8d.

The Council's consultants for this work are John Taylor & Sons, Westminster.

## 3. REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse is collected weekly throughout the area.

Complaints regarding refuse collection are few and infrequent.

Refuse is disposed of by the controlled tipping method. One tip is used at Gawcott and a tip at Stratford Road, Buckingham is in operation. The latter site should provide tipping space for the town for a considerable number of years.

## 4. SWIMMING POOL.

The Pool continued to be well patronised during the Summer season.

Season ticket sales produced	£110	13	5
Gate receipts produced	£338	14	6
Refreshments sold amounted to	£195	10	0

The Education Dept. contributed £168 10 0 for the use of the pool by local schools for swimming instruction.

The pool water was at all times satisfactory.

Six children's boats were let for hire during the Summer on part of the river adjoining the Swimming Pool. They proved a popular innovation and produced £21 17 0 in hire charges.

New buildings for changing accommodation were completed at the Swimming Pool with the exception of some of the internal fittings.

## 5. FACTORIES.

No matters calling for special attention have been reported.

Factory extensions are in hand at Messrs. E. & F. Richardson's and also Messrs. Leslie Hartridge Ltd.

No outworkers were notified to the Council during 1963.

## PART I OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	5	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	29	41	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	14	2	—
TOTAL	41	69	2	—

### 6. PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary, situated in this Council's yard, continued to serve the needs of the Borough and the Rural District.

### D. Housing.

26 new Council Houses were completed during the year and 19 garages.

Although Private House building exceeds Council building in quantity, a keen demand continues for Council Houses. At the end of 1963, 109 applicants were on the Housing List.

## E. Annual Report of Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

I have pleasure in presenting a brief report on the principal activities of the Public Health Department during 1963.

### NUISANCES, CONTRAVENTION OF **BYE-LAWS**, ETC.

Complaints received and investigated ... ..	811
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint ... ..	12
Nuisances, etc., abated ... ..	505
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts	Nil
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts	70
Prosecutions ... ..	Nil

### HOUSES AND PREMISES INSPECTED.

The total number of inspections under the Public Health Acts were as follows :—

Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	14
Bakehouses ... ..	30
Butchers' Shops ... ..	118
Slaughter Houses ... ..	99
Foodshops ... ..	71
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order ... ..	—
Infected house visits (excluding Tuberculosis cases) ...	—
Dwelling houses ... ..	507

### HOUSING ACTS.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of four houses but unauthorised occupation of one house has delayed the demolition of this house and also the adjoining property.

Many older properties, which, in the normal course of events might warrant formal action are being bought and renovated. This is undoubtedly the result of increasing costs of sound properties.

# CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	246	..	1	804	389	..
Number inspected	246	..	1	804	389	..
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	..	..	11	5	..
% of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci	4.8	..	..	1.3	1.28	..
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
% of inspected affected with Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cysticercosis. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	..	..	..	..	..
Generalised and totally con- demned	..	..	..	..	..	..

14 Articles of other foods were condemned and destroyed during the year.

Close attention has been paid to food premises, having regard to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

The number of premises affected by the regulations being 83 and falling into the following categories :—

Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	8
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	16
Stalls ...	...	...	...	...	5
Canteens	...	...	...	...	15
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	35
Dairies	...	...	...	...	2

The number of premises registered under Section 6 of the Food and Drugs Act is 22, and all such premises are regularly inspected.

No clean food campaigns have been sponsored during the period.

All food premises have been supplied with extracts from the Food Hygiene Regulations.

#### PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of Petroleum Spirit	33
Inspection of Petroleum Stores ... ..	45

#### RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ORDER, 1919.

#### RODENT INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Work under this heading has continued to occupy a large amount of time, and much good work has been done in this direction throughout the year. The following is a brief summary of the work carried out :—

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	46
Number of premises treated for rats	...	...	...	25
Number of premises treated for mice	...	...	...	8
Estimated number of rats destroyed	...	...	...	80
Actual rats' bodies found	...	...	...	—
Visits for Inspection and Survey	...	...	...	65
Visits for Baiting and Extermination	...	...	...	75

RENNIE TAYLOR,

*Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.*

F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

1. GENERAL.

We had an outbreak of measles during May, June and July. 34 cases were notified.

2. NUMBER OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

						1962	1963
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	34
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	1

3. CANCER.

There were 8 deaths from this disease during the year. Four were aged 75 or over, three 65 or over, and one in the 45/55 age group.

4. TUBERCULOSIS.

Three new cases were notified, but there were no deaths.

D. H. WALDRON,

*Medical Officer of Health*



*E. N. Hillier & Sons Ltd.*  
*Printers*  
*Buckingham*